

seen fit to discontinue the New York Associated Press reports and to trust to the copperhead concern of this city for their telegraphic news, are engaged in abusing the former and calling it an "old machine." Well, it is a machine whose enterprise and liberality have given them all the reputation as newspapers that they ever possessed. The only "old machine" about it is Craig, the late agent of the association, who has been dismissed from his service because of his incompetency and unreliability. This Craig was the rotten part of the "old machine," and the greatest folly of which the Associated Press has ever been guilty is the folly of not having sooner turned him adrift. So the papers that make this outcry have, in fact, only got the "old machine," which is Craig himself, and are excluded from the benefits of the New York Associated Press under its new and reformed management, with its energy, enterprise and efficiency renewed and increased through having abolished Craig and all the other nuisances and abuses that had grown up under him.

THE NATIONAL BANKS AND THE CURRENCY QUESTION IN CONGRESS.

We perceive a movement has commenced in Congress on the highly important question of abolishing the national bank currency and substituting in its place legal tenders. We have repeatedly urged such a measure upon Congress, for several reasons. First, that the government was literally giving away to private corporations a valuable privilege worth over twenty millions a year, for which neither it nor the public received any consideration or advantage. Second, that by withdrawing the national bank circulation and substituting legal tenders in its place, the government would have over twenty millions a year, for instance, by the issue of three hundred millions or more of legal tenders, whatever amount may be finally fixed upon, the Treasury could buy up with that or retire the same amount of interest-bearing bonds—that is, the bonds now deposited by the national banks as security for their circulation, from which they draw twenty millions or more annually in the way of interest in addition to the profits of their circulation. This would not increase the currency and would only substitute one kind of paper money for another. Why should the people be taxed to make such an enormous gratuity to companies of capitalists? Why should not this amount be saved to the Treasury and applied as a sinking fund to pay the national debt? Third, because the legal tender currency is better, safer and more acceptable to the public than that of the national banks. Although in ordinary times the bonds deposited with the Secretary of the Treasury by the banks as security for their circulation may be sufficient to redeem their notes, the time might come, in a great commercial or war crisis, when these bonds would be so depreciated that they would not realize enough to redeem the notes. The loss would then fall upon the government and public, whereas for legal tenders the government is always responsible and would lose nothing by them in a crisis. Fourth, we are opposed to the national bank system because it is a dangerous monopoly, controlling all the labor and products of labor, the markets and commercial affairs of the country, placing, in fact, all the industrial interests of the country in the hands of grasping capitalists. It is, too, a dangerous political machine, which in a short time would control the destinies of the republic. Every way the national bank system is a monstrous evil.

The Congressional action referred to was the resolutions submitted in the House of Representatives by Mr. Ross, democrat, of Illinois, and Mr. Harding, republican, of Illinois, both pretty much in the same terms, to the effect that the Committee on Banking and Currency be instructed to inquire into the expediency of withdrawing the national bank currency and winding up the national banks and furnishing the country with greenbacks, or currency of a similar character, in place of the national bank currency. The resolution of Mr. Harding was stronger and more explicit than that of Mr. Ross, and was to instruct the committee to report a bill. On the motion of Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, who appears to be very active in the interest of the national bank monopoly, the resolutions were laid on the table. But the vote shows clearly that the views we have advanced are making way rapidly in Congress. Against the motion of Mr. Ross the vote stood 86 to 59, and against Mr. Harding's 94 to 60. This is great progress in the right direction since the last session, and we are not without hope of seeing a majority in Congress before the close of the present session in favor of such a radical change in our currency and banking system as will place the whole on a sound and healthy basis. The national bank interest is powerful in Congress, but we think it will be unable to resist the progress of enlightened views on this subject.

THE TENNESSEE LEGISLATURE.

Arrangements for the celebration of the Battle of Nashville—General Thomas to participate. The Abstracted School Fund—Local Powers Vested in the Governor for its Recovery.

NAASHVILLE, Dec. 11, 1866. A message relating to the school fund was received today in the House of Representatives, and a committee was appointed to make the necessary investigation.

The house concurred in the Senate resolution ordering the Comptroller to borrow \$250,000 to aid in paying the interest on the State bonds falling due January 1.

A communication was read in both houses announcing that Major General Thomas and staff would, in response to the invitation of the Legislature, visit Nashville to participate in the ceremonies of the anniversary of the Battle of Nashville. A joint resolution was adopted appointing a joint committee to make the necessary arrangements toward a proper celebration of the occasion.

The Senate adopted a resolution authorizing the Governor to take active measures to recover the school funds which have been abstracted, and providing that for this purpose he have and exercise plenary powers to do and perform all necessary acts.

Parliament convened the Tennessee National Bank of Nashville today, and the State Treasurer had been in the habit of placing the school funds in charge of that institution. Public sentiment is much exercised on the subject, and it is expected that the school funds will be speedily returned to the State.

Major interest is again manifested in the school funds, which have been recently organized at Knoxville and Chattanooga under the auspices of General O'Neil, and that of Nashville will be renewed on Thursday.

GEORGIA LEGISLATURE. Herschel V. Johnson Elected United States Senator. Dec. 11, 1866. Herschel V. Johnson was re-elected United States Senator on the first ballot.

The House passed the Homestead bill. Exemptions have been increased one hundred per cent, and also applied to contracts, before passing the bill. A veto is expected from the Governor.

EUROPE.

Special Telegrams to the Herald.

JOHN H. SURRATT'S FIRST ARREST.

Extraordinary Revelations Concerning the Lincoln Assassination.

The French Evacuation of Rome Completed, and a Dangerous Crisis Anticipated.

THE FRANCO-MEXICAN TRANSPORT FLEET

Seizure of a Supposed Fenian Steamer in the Midway.

BY THE CABLE TO DECEMBER 11.

THE LINCOLN ASSASSIN.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE HERALD.

The Informer Against John H. Surrott—Why he informed—Alleged Revelations of Surrott's Implication in the Lincoln Assassination.

ROME, Dec. 11, 1866. The man who informed United States Minister King in this city, that John H. Surrott, the Lincoln assassin, was in Rome, is a French Canadian, named St. Marie.

This man arrived at one period during the Southern American rebellion in a soldier in the army of the American South. After his discharge he went to Europe, and entered the ranks of the French army, fighting in the Crimea.

When St. Marie was in America, both Surrott and himself paid their addresses to, in fact, as such, both were deeply in love with one lady then residing in the city of Washington, D. C.

After their emigration, both having found employment and shelter in the French army, St. Marie recognized Surrott and having fully identified him betrayed him; it is asserted here through jealousy.

St. Marie says that John H. Surrott has already told him that the assassination of the late President Lincoln was the result of a preconcerted rebel American plot; that the details of the plot and the details of the execution of the late President Lincoln.

At an early hour the soldiers of Napoleon marched from the Castle of San Angelo. The Imperial French flag was immediately run down and the Pontifical colors hoisted on the stronghold at once.

The Pope is gone to Civita Vecchia, where his Holiness will remain during ten days.

The twenty-ninth (French) regiment of the line has been evacuated from France.

The remaining French troops were embarking at Civita Vecchia.

The French Evacuation of Rome by the French troops has been in progress for several days, and will be virtually completed to-day.

Difficulties Apprehended in the City.

PARIS, Dec. 10, 1866. Serious difficulty is apprehended in Rome after the withdrawal of the French troops. It is said that preparations are making by the authorities to meet the worst.

PRUSSIA.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE HERALD.

The United States Minister Seriously Ill.

BERLIN, Dec. 11, 1866. The Hon. Joseph A. Wright—Governor Wright—United States Minister in this city, is lying seriously ill in this city.

Compliments to Denmark.

BERLIN, Dec. 11, 1866. King Frederick William, of Prussia, has conferred the order of the Black Eagle on the King and Crown Prince of Denmark.

The Danish budget has been laid before the Chambers.

SAXONY.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE HERALD.

The Old Navy Refuses to Serve Prussia.

DRESDEN, Dec. 11, 1866. The Saxon naval officers, who had been commissioned by the King before and since the late war in Germany, unanimously refuse to serve under the King of Prussia, and have all consequently resigned their positions.

It is reported that the physicians of Emperor Carlos fear the absolute loss of their services as well as their life.

THE FENIANS.

Prussian Oppression.

LONDON, Dec. 10, 1866. A telegram from Hanover reports the commencement of aggressive measures against the people by the Prussian authorities.

THE MEXICAN QUESTION.

The French Evacuation Transport Fleet About to Sail.

TUNIS, Dec. 10, 1866. It was supposed that the transports to bring home the French troops from Mexico would sail from there, but they are now getting ready in this harbor. There is great activity here.

PARIS, Dec. 10, 1866. The departure of the French fleet of war vessels and transports for Vera Cruz is now said to be fixed for next week. The vessels are all manned and provisioned and are expected to reach their destination about the middle of January.

CANADIAN CONFEDERATION.

The North American Delegates in Council in England.

LONDON, Dec. 10—Evening. Many of the delegates from the British American provinces have arrived in view of the final settlement of the Confederation scheme have arrived. They have formed themselves into a conference and selected Mr. McDonald to preside over their deliberations.

FRANCE.

Cabinet Changes Still Spoken of.

PARIS, Dec. 10, 1866. It is again rumored that M. Rouher would, the present French Minister of Finance, will soon resign.

THE FENIANS.

Seizure of a Supposed Fenian Steamer in the Midway.

MIDWAY, Dec. 11—Evening. The steamer which has been seized in the Midway on suspicion of being a Fenian steamer. A large force

of arms and ammunition and thirty tons of gunpowder were found on board the steamer.

Seizure of Arms Intended for the Fenians.

LONDON, Dec. 11—Evening. A quantity of arms, intended for the use of the Fenians, and all the fittings of a gunsmith's shop, were seized to-day at Cardiff, while on their way to Ireland.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The London Money Market.

LONDON, Dec. 10—Evening. Money remains easy at 3 1/4 per cent; with the close of the year the demand exhibits a slight increase.

Consols maintain a steady appearance, being quoted this evening at 88 1/2 for money, and 88 1/2 for the account.

The money market closed quiet and steady. Consols for money were quoted at 88 1/2, ex-dividend.

During the day Erie Railway shares declined 1/2, closing this evening at 45 1/2. United States five-twenty bonds of 1862 (coupon) also declined 1/2, and at the close were quoted at 71. Illinois Central, however, closed at an advance, being in demand at 77 1/2.

After considerable fluctuations, opening at 10 1/2 and rising to 11 1/2, American five-twenty bonds of 1862 finally closed this evening at the opening figure. There were buyers at 71.

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